

Elizabeth DiGregorio: Chief of Staff

Elizabeth DiGregorio was appointed Chief of Staff by FEMA Director Joe Allbaugh in July 2001. As Chief of Staff, she is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the agency and for directing implementation of the priorities and policies of the agency's Director. FEMA programs encompass disaster response and recovery, hazard mitigation, training, preparedness exercises, insurance and fire prevention. The agency is headquartered in Washington, D.C., and has 10 regional offices. Its resources include a permanent staff of 2,000, a temporary staff of 5,000 and an annual budget of about \$7 billion, including the Federal Disaster Relief Fund.

In her position, Ms. DiGregorio has helped implement the organization's current realignment, assisted in the new administration's transition and began implementing the Director's initial initiatives and new vision for the agency.

Ms. DiGregorio joined FEMA in 1980 as a Disaster Assistance Employee in the Denton, Texas, regional office. In 1982, she became a full-time employee working in disaster assistance and continuity of government programs. In 1988, she came to FEMA headquarters and served in a number of management positions in national security, training, response and recovery, and regional operations.

Before joining FEMA, Ms. DiGregorio was executive director of the McKinley Area Council of Governments, in Gallup, NM.

A native of New Mexico, Ms. DiGregorio earned a bachelor of arts degree from Colorado College and a Masters in Public Administration Degree from the University of North Texas. She is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute and holds a training specialist certificate from Georgetown University.

Ms. DiGregorio has received the Director's Meritorious Service Award, the President's Council for Year 2000 Conversion medal and the Vice Presidents Hammer Award

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